

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Responsive to the Official Action mailed July 19, 2006, applicants have further amended the claims of their application in an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance. Specifically, claims 1-4, 9, and 12 have been amended, claim 5 cancelled, and new claims 13-19 added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The above amendment to claims 1 and 4, and newly added claims 13-16, regarding the formation of different woven or knit patterns in the nonwoven are supported by the specification (e.g., page 3, lines 4-9; page 5, line 27 to page 6, line 3; and FIGURES 16-17). Also, the recitation of claim 5 has been incorporated into its parent claim 4. New claims 17-19 are supported by original claims 2, 9, and 12.

None of the references cited by the Examiner in rejecting the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103, including (i.e., Pung (WO 9925318), DeLeon (US2002/0034914), and Aszman (U.S. Patent No. 5108642)), individually or in combination teach or suggest the presently claimed method including the steps of applying hydraulic energy to a nonwoven fabric upon a three-dimensional image transfer device so as to simultaneously entangle and impart at least a first three-dimensional image and a second three-dimensional image into the fabric with intercalated three-dimensional images wherein one said three-dimensional image imparts a first woven or knit pattern and one said three-dimensional image imparts a different woven or knit pattern.

The specific different woven or knit patterns recited in new dependent claims 13-16 are even further separated and different from the relied upon prior art.

Application No. 10/820,985
Amendment dated October 18, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 19, 2006

In view of the foregoing, formal allowance of claims 1-4, 6, 9, 12, and 13-19 is believed to be in order and is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner wish to speak with applicants' attorneys, they may be reached at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with this submission to Deposit Account No. 23-0785.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage at First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on **October 18, 2006**.

